



**DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY  
STRATEGIC MATERIALS  
8725 JOHN J. KINGMAN ROAD  
FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA 22060-6223**

February 3, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY STRATEGIC MATERIAL HAMMOND, IN  
DEPOT PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: VPP POLICY STATEMENT

The guiding principle behind our mission is to enculturate an Environmental and Safety mindset in every member of our in-house and contractor workforce, ensuring our employees are accountable for the Environmental and Safety Programs. Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Strategic Materials (SM) enables mission readiness by imbedding Environmental and Safety aspects as essential components to accomplish our mission and meet our strategic goals.

It is my responsibility to ensure we create and maintain a safe and healthful work environment. I am committed to implementing the fundamental elements of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP), which are: Management Commitment and Employee Involvement, Worksite Analysis, Hazard Prevention and Control, and Safety and Health Training. By embracing the VPP Safety process, DLA SM Hammond, IN Depot will continually improve and mature and promote a proactive Safety and health culture.

I expect every employee to actively promote Safety by: implementing the elements of OSHA VPP and ensuring all employees are familiar with and use Operational Risk Management (ORM) techniques. I also expect every employee to maintain a commitment to maintain compliance with OSHA standards. Leadership must promote open communication with employees to ensure they are not forced into unsafe practices due to tight work timelines, assigned work that is beyond their capabilities, exceptions to Safety requirements for convenience, unsafe practices because Safety requirements seem excessive, and unsafe practices because of customer influences.

I encourage you to ensure Safety is considered, evaluated, and incorporated into every phase of our business; be it planning, design, or operations. Include Safety in all your activities at home, at play, or on the road. Integrating safe behavior in all you do protects you, your family, and your friends from needless harm; If it's not safe, we're not doing it.

Safety is a team effort. At DLA SM Hammond, IN Depot, Safety is a corporate value. The responsibility of a successful Safety program lies with every employee's dedication to working safely and identifying and removing hazards before mishaps occur.

**NATHANIEL WALSKO  
DEPOT MANAGER**